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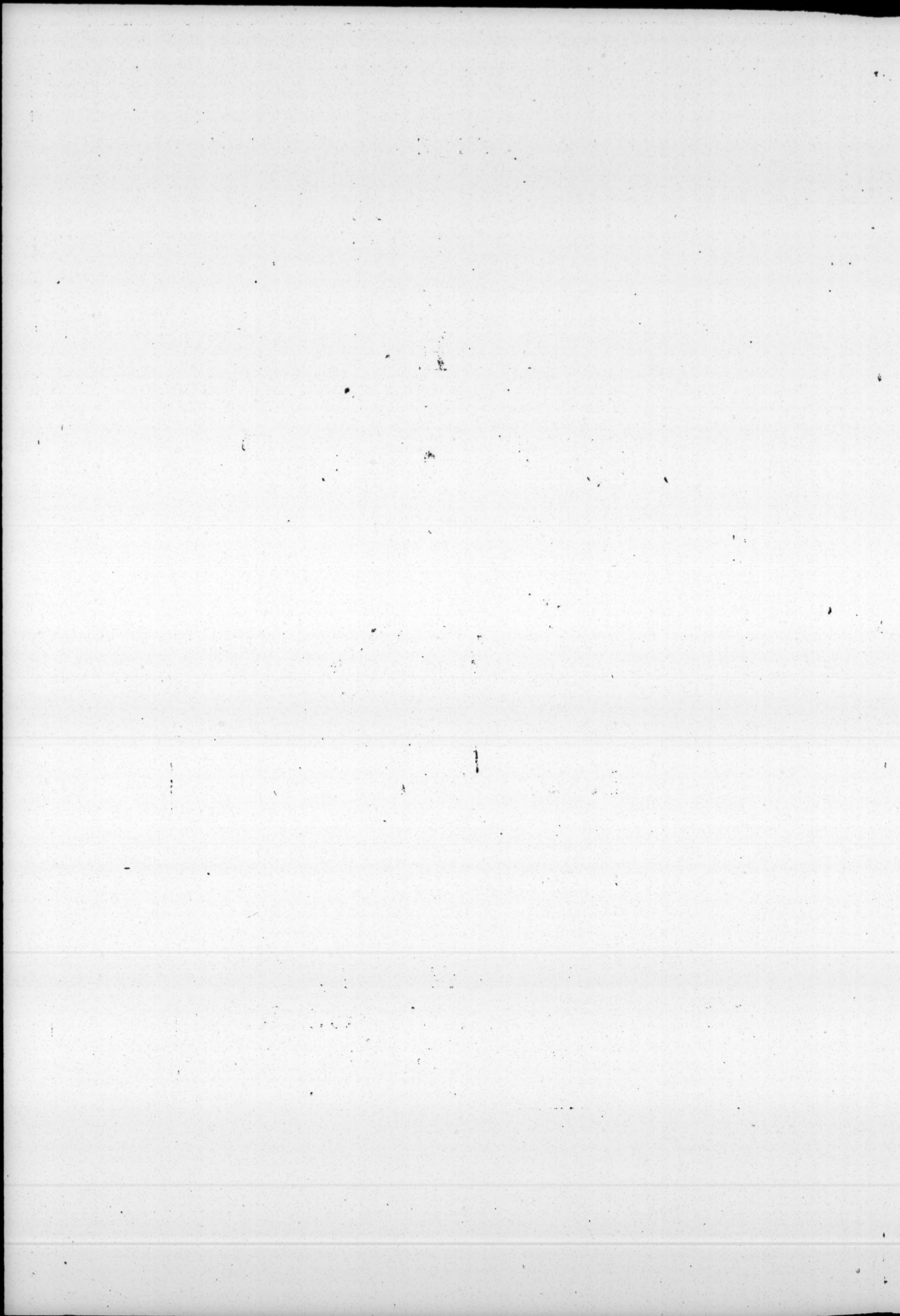
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THE
PARLIAMENT'S
ANSWER,
TO
HIS MAJESTIES
GRACIOUS
LETTER

Of the fourth of *June*, 1663.



EDINBURGH,
Printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the King's
most Excellent Majesty, and re-printed
at *London*. August 1663.





THE
PARLIAMENT'S
ANSWER,
TO
HIS MAJESTIES
GRACIOUS
LETTER

Of the fourth of *July*, 1663.

Most Sacred Sovereign,



WE desire we have had to re-
turn to Your *Majesty* a satis-
factory account of what, by
Your most gracious Letter
the fourth of *June*, was intru-
sted to us, for trying of the
contrivance and carrying on
that design of Billeting, (with
which Your *Majesty* with so much reason declared
Your self most unsatisfied) hath occasioned, that
we have not sooner made these humble and thank-
full acknowledgments, which the gracious expres-
sions in the former part of Your Letter call for;
Being desirous, that the account of our duti-
ful and hearty obedience to these Your *Maje-
sties* most just Commands, might accompany

our due acknowledgments of Your *Majesties* Grace and Goodness, and that our return might not divide, what Your *Majesty* hath by Your Royal Letter joyned.

We do, with all humble duty and thankfulness, acknowledge the great blessings which this Your ancient Kingdom doth now enjoy under Your Royal Authority, The Church being restored to it's right Government, the Kingdom to its former Peace, the Laws to their free Course, and the Subjects to their just Liberties; And all these flowing to us as the happy fruits and effects of Your *Majesties* blessed Restitution, we conceive ourselves obliged in a due resentment thereof, and of the often and renewed expressions of Your *Majesties* Royal care and tenderness of this Kingdom, to return the humble offer of our lives and fortunes, and all that is dearest to us, for the advancement of Your *Majesties* Honour, Authority and Greatness: And that it shall be our care, that the expressions of our obedience to Your *Majesties* Commands, shall be suitable to those unparallel'd Acts of Grace and Favour Your *Majesty* hath vouchsafed upon us.

By Your *Majesties* Letter it appears, That by a Gentleman imployed last year with a Letter of Credit from the Earl of *Middleton*, it was represented to Your *Majesty*, that it was the desire of Your Parliament here, that the Act of Indemnity should carry an exception of incapacitating from publick Trust: and that he earnestly prest, in name of Your Parliament, Your *Majesties* consent to the
incapacitating

incapacitating some few of the most guilty, not exceeding twelve. And your Majesty desiring to know the truth thereof from us; In obedience to your *Majesties* Commands, this being taken into the consideration of Your Parliament, and every Member of Parliament particularly asked thereupon, we finde by the unanimous opinions and votes of the House, That the Parliament gave no warrand, to desire of Your Majesty, that the Act of Indempnity should carry an exception of incapacitating from publick Trust, and that the Parliament gave no warrand at all, to desire in their names, Your *Majesties* consent to the incapacitating of a few; Yet we have seen the inclosed double of an Instruction, given by the Earl of Middleton in the contrary, to Sir George Mackenzie, signed and owned by him in presence of your Parliament to be a just double, bearing, that it was much desired by Your Parliament, that some should be excepted from publick Trust.

We also finde no other ground in the Act of Parliament concerning Billetting, neither do we remember of any other ground made use of before the Articles, or in the Parliament, for incapacitating, but that it was Your *Majesties* pleasure to have it so, and that this was the rise of bringing in the Act of Billetting, as the most expedient way of voting the Act for Incapacitie.

And in obedience to Your *Majesties* Commands for the further tryall of the manner of contrivance and carrying on this design of Billetting, and Your *Majesties* suspicion that Your Name was abused therein; some Com-

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missioners

missioners authorized by Your Parliament, having taken the depositions of divers Members of Parliament, and two Knights, thereupon, and having delivered the principal depositions to Your *Majesties* Commissioner, to be by his Grace communicated to Your *Majesty*, Have offered to us this particular account thereof under their hand-writings, which we (without presuming at all to give any judgment thereupon) offer hereby to Your *Majesties* Royal consideration; And when Your *Majesty* shall be pleased to make Your further pleasure therein known to us, we shall give such obedience thereto, and to the other particulars in Your Royal Letter, as shall witness to the world, that Your *Majesties* Royal Judgment is the rule of our actions, and that your *Majesties* Commands shall alwayes receive that obedience from us, which suits with the duty of good Subjects, and the relation we now serve Your *Majesty* in, as Your *Majesties* most loyal and faithful Parliament; In whose Name, and by whose Command, these are signed by,

*Your Majesties most humble, most dutiful,
and most obedient Subject and Servant,*

*Edinburgh 28 July,
1663.*

*Glencairn Cancellarius,
J. P. D. Par.*

E D I N B U R G H,

Printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the King's most
Excellent Majesty, 1663.

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